

THE RARE AND THREATENED PLANTS IN THE AHUPUA'A OF MANUKA,
KAULANAMAUNA, AND KAPU'A, SOUTH KONA, HAWAII*

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There is no simple description for a typical community within the ahupua'a of Manuka, Kaulanamauna, and Kapu'a, as a consequence of climatic patterns in South Kona. Within this location there is a mosaic of communities.

Subalpine, pioneer communities on lava, kipukas, "fog inversion layer" rain forests, mixed mesophytic forests, dry transitional forests, and coastal strand communities are all found within this one area.

This paper focusses on the rare and threatened plants that are located within each of these zones, as identified by the project systematists. For species that have been identified on certain lists as rare and endangered, preliminary information--habitat, condition (vigor, regeneration), and general observations--has been compiled. This research was sponsored by the National Science Foundation under the Student Originated Studies Program to conduct a baseline survey of the archaeological and natural resources in the ahupua'a of Manuka, Kaulanamauna, and Kapu'a, during the summer of 1977.